

# E.L.L. Practice | The 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference

The New York Times Blogs

(The Learning Network)

November 30, 2015 Monday

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**Section:** EDUCATION

**Length:** 444 words

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**Highlight:** In this post, students learn about the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference and answer questions that test their comprehension of two excerpts from articles about it.

## Body

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Note: We invite any English Language Learner student 13 years or older to post comments in response to the writing prompts in this post.

First, if global warming and climate change are new concepts, begin with student-friendly overviews from NASA, the National Center for Atmospheric Research or the United States Environment Protection Agency. Then explore the interactive "What Could Disappear."

Second, read the following two passages and answer the questions about the Conference of Parties, an international forum on climate change in Paris.

From "Limited Progress Seen Even as More Nations Step Up on Climate":

The planet has already warmed by about 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit above the temperature that prevailed before the Industrial Revolution, representing an enormous addition of heat. Virtually every piece of land \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth is melting, the sea ice in the Arctic is collapsing, droughts and other weather extremes are intensifying, and the global food system has shown signs of instability.

Bruising fights are still expected at the Paris conference, especially over money. Poor countries that have had little to do with causing global warming, but are likely to suffer the worst effects, are demanding billions from \_\_\_\_\_ countries to help them manage.

Take the Quiz

From "Obama Will Attend Climate Conference in Paris":

President Obama plans to attend climate change talks in Paris at the end of the month despite the security concerns in the wake of the recent terrorist attacks in that city, White House officials said Thursday.

Mr. Obama is scheduled to attend the beginning of the climate conference on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, along with many other world leaders.

"We are planning for him to go to Paris," said Benjamin J. Rhodes, the deputy national security adviser. "We have great confidence in our French partners," he said, referring to security there.

Mr. Rhodes said the United States had been coordinating with the French on intelligence matters since the Paris attacks. But he said all decisions about security for the world leaders at the climate talks would be France's.

The "Five W's" are questions about information that begin with these words: who, what, where, when and why.

Take the Quiz

Third, write out answers to the following two prompts.

What do scientists and others mean when they say "climate change"? Do you think climate change will affect you?

You can use these sentence starters:

When scientists and others say "climate change," they mean \_\_\_\_\_. I think it will/will not affect me because \_\_\_\_\_.

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Related: Our collection of resources for teaching about climate change

## Classification

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**Language:** ENGLISH

**Document-Type:** News

**Publication-Type:** Web Blog

**Subject:** CLIMATE CHANGE (93%); CLIMATOLOGY (90%); CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS (90%); GLOBAL WARMING (90%); MULTILINGUALISM (90%); STUDENTS & STUDENT LIFE (90%); UNITED NATIONS (90%); UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTIONS (90%); FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION (89%); LANGUAGE & LANGUAGES (89%); LANGUAGE ACQUISITION (89%); SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); EARTH & ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE (78%); INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & NATIONAL SECURITY (78%); METEOROLOGY (78%); OCEANOGRAPHIC & ATMOSPHERIC SERVICES (78%); TALKS & MEETINGS (78%); ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENTS (77%); NATIONAL SECURITY (77%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (77%); SPACE PROGRAMS (77%); NOVEMBER 2015 PARIS ATTACKS (75%); ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES (73%); GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS (73%); NEGATIVE NEWS (73%); EXPERIMENTATION & RESEARCH (72%); US PRESIDENTS (72%); TERRORISM & COUNTERTERRORISM (70%); TERRORISM (64%); TERRORIST ATTACKS (64%); Ideas for ELLs (%); Test Yourself (%)

**Industry:** GLOBAL WARMING (90%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); SPACE PROGRAMS (77%)

**Person:** BARACK OBAMA (79%)

**Geographic:** PARIS, FRANCE (90%); EARTH (79%); ARCTIC OCEAN (78%); UNITED STATES (93%); FRANCE (91%); ARCTIC (79%)

**Load-Date:** November 30, 2015

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